

Fulbright Raps Book, 'The Ugly American'

Senator Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas, yesterday attacked the authors of the best-selling book "The Ugly American" of doing a grave and harmful disservice to the United States.

Senator Fulbright, who heads the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said the authors, William J. Lederer and Eugene Burdick, have written a reckless and irresponsible account of American foreign aid efforts in Asia.

The Arkansas Senator spoke out in a speech prepared for the Senate in advance of action on the \$3.5 billion foreign aid money bill this week. The measure is under hot fire from some Democrats angered by President Eisenhower's vetoes of legislation for housing and public works.

Heartens Aid Critics

He said the book "heartens those Americans who detest foreign aid and who use these criticisms as an argument for the abandonment of such aid to Asian countries.

Senator Fulbright said he fears a movie version of "The Ugly American" would amplify the "coarse cartoon" he said the book represents.

He quoted an unidentified official of the movie industry as saying: "This is our story line. Here is this lush shackled up with a Eurasian dame to whom he spills American secrets."

"Translating this from Hol-

lywood, this means that the United States Ambassador to a Southeast Asian country is a drunkard who has a Eurasian mistress to whom he spills secrets of our foreign policy. This our Ambassador is pictured as a drunkard, a lecher and a traitor."

Says U.S. Inevitably

"I do not see how anyone could more effectively discredit this country, especially in the eyes of Asians, than through the production of such a film."

Senator Fulbright said he hopes the State Department will not give any cooperation to the movie makers.

"It is clear he has not read the book," said Mr. Burdick, when read a summary of Senator Fulbright's statement.

Mr. Burdick, a political science professor at the University of California at Berkeley, said the men making a movie of "The Ugly American" are "responsible and patriotic men who wish to make a movie which is confidentially American." He added:

"This Senator should not be so fearful of the fragility of our friendship abroad."